CLAIMS

Claims 1-5 (Cancelled)

Claim 6 (Amended). A radio mobile telecommunications system comprises a base transceiver station arranged to manage a plurality of mobile systems within at least one telecommunications cell; the base transceiver station having means to provide an acquisition indication channel by which a first acknowledgement signal is sent to indicate that the strength of the preamble signals of increasing strength sent by a mobile system to the base transceiver station has reached a predetermined acceptable level; characterized in that said first acknowledgement signal is arranged to indicate in addition that the mobile system must not send a message signal for a predicted time since resources at said base transceiver station are currently unavailable to process said message signal, but must send upon expiry of the predicted time a further preamble at the same acceptable strength level; and the base transceiver station having means to send a further acknowledgement signal in response to the further preamble indicating that the mobile system is permitted to send the message signal.

Claim 7 (Amended). A method of operating a radio base transceiver station comprising:-

receiving spaced preambles of increasing strength from a mobile station;

sending a preamble acknowledgement signal on an acquisition indication channel when a preamble reaches an acceptable strength wherein the preamble acknowledgement signal further indicates that the mobile system is not permitted to send its message signal for a predicted period since resources at said base transceiver station are currently unavailable to process said message signal, but must send upon expiry of the predicted period a further preamble at the same acceptable strength level;

receiving said further preamble from the mobile station;

sending a preamble acknowledgement signal of a second type indicating that the mobile station is permitted to send its message signal; and

receiving the message signal from the mobile station.

REMARKS

The present application stands with claims 6 and 7 rejected as being obvious over the cited Chuah et.al patent (Chuah) in view of the cited Kallin patent (Kallin).

As amended, claim 6 requires that the mobile system must not send a message signal for a predicted time since resources at said base transceiver station are currently unavailable to process said message signal, but must send upon expiry of the predicted time a further preamble of the same acceptable strength level (emphasis added).

As amended, claim 7 correspondingly requires that the mobile station is not permitted to send a message signal for a predicted time since resources at said base transceiver station are currently unavailable to process said message signal, but must send upon expiry of the predicted time a further preamble at the same acceptable strength level (emphasis added).

Neither Chuah nor Kallin discloses or suggests at least the features emphasized by underlining in the above. It follows that the claimed invention meets the standards of 35 USC 103(a) over the cited art.

As previously discussed, the amended claims relate to the "second embodiment" mentioned on page 5 line 17 to page 6 line 3 of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney thanks Examiner Hoosain for the opportunity to talk with him and discuss the present application and for his helpful suggestions and guidance.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of all the claims presently in the application and passage to issue of the subject application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner should feel that the application is not yet in a condition for allowance and that a telephone interview would be useful, he is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at **(973) 386-8252**.

Respectfully submitted,

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